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followed the lead of the most advanced of the champions of natural selection that I am convinced of its sufficiency as an explanation of the great diversities which exist among animals or of its being sufficient basis for an explanation of the snake's rattle. But having been driven step by step from a decided opposition of the whole theory and compelled to accept it as a *vera causa*, though I think one much more limited in its action among animals than Mr. Darwin believes, I feel it to be my duty to examine every one of those points upon which I have relied for evidence against it.

It must be confessed that the case of the rattlesnake seems to me no longer the bar to the acceptance of the theory it once did.

REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

NORWEGIAN ZOOLOGY.* — The thoroughness and zeal shown by the Scandinavian naturalists in working up minutely the fauna of their shores is remarkable. While the land animals and plants of the country of Linnæus and Fabricius have been most zealously described, of late years no region has been so thoroughly explored with the dredge and net as the coast of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. We are also indebted for nearly all our most accurate knowledge of the natural history of Greenland, Iceland and Spitzbergen to the hardy and adventurous sons of the Norsemen, who first visited those islands for discovery and conquest. And it is a fact that in those countries where the land is most barren in organized life, the most valuable knowledge of biology has been acquired. With a few exceptions no one has done more to advance zoology in the highest sense than Professor Michael Sars. The marine zoologists of our own country owe him a peculiar debt of gratitude, for his writings have been a constant source of information, and better still a stimulus to do more thorough and lasting work.

The present memoir consists of detailed and beautifully illustrated descriptions of new additions to the marine fauna of the bay of Christiania. The figures have been drawn by Dr. G. O.

*Bidrag til Kundskab om Christianiafjordens Fauna. II. Af Michæl Sars. (Prepared from his manuscript by his son, G. O. Sars.) Christiania, 1870. 8vo. pp. 114, with six plates.

Sars, one of the most eminent of the younger European zoologists, and a zoological artist of unusual skill.

The chief interest of the book is in the accounts and figures of the curious crustacean parasites found living on worms. These are degraded water fleas (Copepoda), like the Lernæans found living on the gills of fishes. The Danish naturalist Kröyer, recently deceased, was the first, we believe, to discover one of these parasites on a worm (Polynoë). Keferstein, a German naturalist, afterwards detected several similar forms, and more recently Steenstrup, Claparède and others have found a considerable number on different worms. These discoveries form a new chapter in the intricate subject of parasitism, and open up new relations in the study of biology.

New Galapagos Birds.*—During the course of seven years' explorations in the greater part of Central America, the Cordilleras of the Andes in Columbia, Ecuador and Peru, Dr. Habel found time to visit the Chinca and Galapagos Islands. While he paid particular attention to the natural and physical history of these regions, he did not neglect the ethnology and meteorology of the countries he visited. He has returned with large collections stored up in New York, and we trust he may get time to arrange and publish the results of his travels. Meanwhile the birds of the Galapagos Islands have been identified, and in this article, a list of thirty-seven species of birds collected by him is given, with illustrated descriptions of seven new species. The authors state that they "are preparing for publication a memoir on the avifauna of this group of islands, in which [they] propose to embrace what has previously been recorded on this subject, as well as the results of Dr. Habel's arduous investigations."

Recent British Ostracodes.†—Whoever attempts the difficult and wearisome task of studying and describing the numerous shelled entomostraca which swarm in our pools, ponds and streams, and also in the sea, will find the occasional papers of Mr. Brady invaluable, while the present is a work ranking with the elaborate

* Character of new species of birds collected by Dr. Habel in the Galapagos Islands. By P. L. Slater and O. Salvin. (From the Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London.) May, 1870. 8vo. pp. 6, with cuts.

† A Monograph of the Recent British Ostracoda. By George S. Brady. (From the Transactions of the Linnæan Society, vol. xxvi. (no date) 4to. pp. 142, with 18 plates.